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## Ecotones: The Heartbeat of Huxley, 2002, Winter, Issue 01

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## Huxley Students Will Study South Campus Stormwater Treatment Facility in New Class

By Anna Maher

Huxley is planning to create a spring seminar course which involves field sampling of the South Campus artificial wetland.

Although the Institute of Watershed Studies (IWS) currently samples at the wetland, results generated from students in the proposed seminar may be used

to help determine its usefulness in treating stormwater.

Joan Vandersypen, the laboratory supervisor for the Institute, said the students will use what they learn at the site in their future professional careers.

"The nice thing about this project is it's really close," Vandersypen said.

The wetland is located

south of Bill McDonald Parkway, west of 25<sup>th</sup> Street and north of Taylor Avenue. IWS put in a sampling site at the facility in March 2001, adding to the list of sites they are monitoring under the Whatcom Watershed Project.

Although the state-of-the-art rock/plant filter is not in the Whatcom watershed, IWS is testing it to see how successful it is compared to wetponds in the watershed. Research Associate Mike Hilles is currently in charge of collecting the data at the South Campus site for IWS.

Since the facility was built, students have been

encouraged to do testing at the site for independent study projects with materials sponsored by IWS. The project architects and engineers, as well as the City of Bellingham, which is in charge of monitoring stormwater quality, are interested in the generation of water quality data from the site.

Molly Glynn and Melissa Adams, both undergraduates at Huxley, were provided with materials from IWS when they expressed their interest in doing an independent study project involving testing at the site.

"It's really good to

*Continued on page 3*



Joan Vandersypen and Anne-Marie Osterback test their way through the South Campus wetland.

Photo courtesy of the Institute of Watershed Studies

### Ecotones Mission Statement:

Ecotones is a student publication devoted to providing a voice for the Huxley community and reporting on current events and issues affecting everyone. We appreciate comments and criticisms about any aspect of Ecotones, or story ideas.

Visit us on the web! [www.ac.www.edu/~ecotones/](http://www.ac.www.edu/~ecotones/)

Or email [eddy1@cc.www.edu](mailto:eddy1@cc.www.edu) to comment!

Winter Issue 1  
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## Northwest Indian College Meeting Time Has Been Changed.

By Anna Maher

Ecotones would like to add some info. to last week's article, "Huxley Partnership With Northwest Indian College is Seeking Funding."

The TENRM program has applied for two grants that would allow it to continue. If the program does end, Huxley faculty members will continue in some teaching, service, and/or research capacity at NWIC.

The meeting mentioned in the article is to discuss a number of topics, one of which is TENRM funding. The time of the meeting has been changed from January 24 to January 31<sup>st</sup> from 1 to 9 p.m. and will be held at NWIC.

## Scholarships and the Environmental Career Fair are Open to All

By Laurel Eddy

The Huxley College would like to remind students that scholarships are open to everyone, and a 4.0 or other spectacular achievements are not necessary to apply.

Scholarship deadlines for the 2003-2004 year are April 1, 2003. Applications will be available mid-Feb. 2003 in ES 539, the Huxley Main Office.

The Huxley Environmental Career Fair offers many job and internship opportunities. Huxley students should dress sharp, bring their resumes and come to AH 14 and 30 on Feb. 13 from 3:30-5 p.m. There will be displays for many Huxley programs, and from environmental organizations of all kinds, looking to attract the best and the brightest (and Huxley students are of course the best and the brightest.)

Participants as of Jan. 24 will include Battelle-Pacific Northwest Laboratory, BP Cherry Point Refinery, Camp Kiloqua, the Fund for Public Interest Research, Girl Scouts Totem Council, Huxley College Internship Coordinator Cassandra Hiller, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, Peace Corps, People for Puget Sound, Resources Northwest Consultants, SAIC-Science Applications International Corp., The Whale Museum, WA State Dept. of Ecology, and the WA State Parks & Recreation.

Western's Winter Career Fair also takes place on Feb. 13, in the V.U. Multi-purpose Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A Resume Workshop will prepare Huxley students for both fairs on Thursday, January 30 at 2 p.m. in Bond Hall 110.

# Question of the Week

Are you aware of heavy metal pollutants in Bellingham Bay, and what could an individual do to help reduce water pollution in Bellingham?



Carly Maddox, Communication Science Disorders, Junior:

"Yes, I am aware that Georgia was a big polluter. A person could use less fertilizer on their gardens and lawns."



Margret Russell, Cultural Anthropology, Senior:

"I doubt the fact that there are pollutants in the bay, and to help reduce pollution, don't litter in the bay and streams."



Jim Feiccabrino, Science Education, Junior:

"Yes, I heard about high levels on mercury, and how it accumulates in the sediment and affects things living in the bay."



Kellen Porbert, Undecided, Sophomore:

"Yes, in class I heard about high levels of mercury. Take the bus to school to prevent runoff."



John Barone, Environmental Science, Junior:

"Yes. People must be aware that anything that they allow to contact the ground will end up in the bay."

**Continued From Page 1 -  
Wetland**

have it over there so Huxley students can get some experience with an actual project." Glynn said.

Glynn and Adams have been studying the site since fall and are wrapping up the project at the end of this quarter. They are primarily testing to see how well the system is removing suspended solids. The students said they are excited about what they have done.

"Part of what we are doing is basically writing history on the site, methods and procedures for people who want to continue the independent study in the future," Glynn said.

Whether the class remains an independent study or becomes a seminar, Vandersypen said the water quality testing experience is extremely valuable for students.

"They learn how to sample and do analysis and the lab portion of it. Another aspect is they learn some of the functions of a rock filter wetpond system," Vandersypen said.

Although a difference in sampling methods will keep the IWS from comparing their raw data from that of Glynn's and Adams', Vandersypen said the overall results of both projects can be evaluated.

The comparison will help in determining the wetland's overall effectiveness. She said the goal of all the parties involved is to make sure the facility is successful in treating stormwater and that they are open to making changes if it is not working sufficiently. The seminar will provide even more results for comparison.

Vandersypen said she is meeting with Professor John Rybczyk soon to discuss the details of the seminar as well as the number of credits that will be awarded.



John Rybczyk, foreground, Devon Cancilla, in back and Joan Vandersypen, with the helmet, take part in a tour of the wetland.

Photo courtesy of the Institute of Watershed Studies.



Joan Vandersypen and Dwight Osmon take water quality samples at the wetland.

Photo courtesy of Institute of Watershed Studies.

**Women In The Woods**

By Laurel Eddy

Introductory meetings for Women in the Woods are being held on Thursday, Feb. 20 and Thursday, March 13 in VU 464 at 7 p.m.

This AS Club, which currently has about 50 students, and a weekend in the spring with many outdoor activities are for ALL women. The mission of Women in the Woods is to encourage women to get out into the wilderness more, raise awareness on women's issues and environmental issues, and raise money for a women's cause.

Women in the Woods is being made possible through volunteers, grants, underwrites, sponsors and fees from the women who will take part in the clinics offered.

For more information, contact Rebecca Stenerson at [womeninthewoods@hotmail.com](mailto:womeninthewoods@hotmail.com)

**Exposures Photojournalism Club is Opening on Campus**

Exposures: Students' Network of Photojournalism is holding meetings in College Hall 131 every other Tuesday at 5 p.m. starting January 28th, for anyone interested in photojournalism or just photography. The mission of Exposures is to form a community of photographers who can learn from and inspire each other, while networking a connection of in-the-field photographers, by inviting guest speakers to share their photography.

Jonathan Duncan, a well known traveling photojournalist and nature photographer, will be presenting March 4th. Contact Anya Traisman and Heather Trimm by emailing [exposures\\_wwu@hotmail.com](mailto:exposures_wwu@hotmail.com) for more info.

## What's Happening Around Bellingham and WWU

### ONGOING

Scholarship deadlines for the 2003-2004 year are April 1, 2003. Applications will be available mid-Feb. 2003 in ES 539.

The Mt. Baker Group of the Sierra Club seeks help with the "Salmon-Friendly Lawn" campaign. Send SASE to Sierra Club - Mt. Baker Group, P.O. Box 1722, Bellingham, WA 98227

NW Washington Seabird Census starting this winter. Contact John Bower 650-7217.

Call Greenways for more information about the Park Stewards Program or to consult a Bellingham Backyard Habitat Mentor at 676-5801 x24.

Huxley has been invited to be the lead North American partner in a new project on global urbanization initiated by the Alterra Research Institute of Holland's Wageningen University.

LEAD would like to hire a work-study student to assist in restoration parties, plan Earthweek events and provide office support. Contact lead@wwu.edu

Water Whys, a local show focusing on educating the public about water issues, airs on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Sundays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on the Education and Government channel 10, and Saturdays at 5 p.m. on KBCB channel 24.

**Jan. 28, 7 p.m.**

**The Environmental Impacts of War**  
Presented by Saul Bloom

**Jan. 29, 4:30-6 p.m.**

Huxley students needed for focus group on Community and Health at Western. Free pizza! For more information, call Mary Moores at 650-3521.

Graduate Applications due Feb. 1 for priority, especially if the graduate wishes to be a TA. Otherwise, applications are due June 1.

**Feb. 1, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Greenways Planting at New Maritime Heritage Building**

Help add beautiful native plants to the natural landscape. Park on the street or at Maritime Heritage Center hatchery on C St.

**Open Forum on GUR Reform**

**Feb. 4th, 6 p.m. VU 462**

Contact [asvp.academics@wwu.edu](mailto:asvp.academics@wwu.edu) or check out the new proposals at <http://pandora.cii.wwu.edu/gened/>

**Feb. 5, 5 p.m.**

Geography Club and Gamma Rho meeting. in AH 219.

**Feb. 5, 7:00-8:30 pm**

Northwest Ecosystem Alliance Grove Guardians Workshop in Science Lecture 120 to stop Bush's "Healthy Forests Initiative."

The Bush Administration is working quietly to dismantle and undermine crucial environmental protection policies for the Northwest's forests. Learn to make your voice heard and help protect the public forests of Washington state.

For more information, or to sign up for the workshop, contact Hudson Dodd: [hdodd@ecosystem.org](mailto:hdodd@ecosystem.org) or 360-671-9950 x26.

**Feb. 8, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

L.E.A.D. will remove ivy and blackberries and plant trees and shrubs on the Interurban trail between 14th and 16th streets.

**Feb. 8, 1-3 p.m.**

L.E.A.D. Ivy removal at Whatcom Falls Park in the ivy patch south of St. Clair park.

**Feb. 13, 3:30-5 p.m.**

**Huxley Environmental Career Fair**  
A great place to learn more about Huxley! AH 14 and 30.

**Pacific Ecology Conference**

**Feb. 14-16th**

Grad students only) at Simon Fraser University. Registration deadline Jan. 28. For more information, check <http://>

[pec2003.cjb.net](mailto:pec2003.cjb.net)

**Feb. 18, 6:30**

**Lewis Lapham Lecture**

Lapham, editor of Harper's Magazine, will be lecturing in the PAC. Tickets available Jan. 23.

**Feb. 20 7:00 am - 7:00 pm**

Northwest Ecosystem Alliance has chartered a bus for citizens to meet with legislators about protecting the environment on Citizen Lobby Day.

Learn about citizen lobbying, get environmental legislation briefings and meet with legislators. Meet at Civic Field, off of Lakeway Dr. (near the Baseball stadium, by the bus stop)

**RSVP:** Rose Oliver at 671-9950, ext. 10 - by Feb. 18th or email:

[roliver@ecosystem.org](mailto:roliver@ecosystem.org)

**Questions:** Lisa McShane at 671-9950, ext. 17. or [lmcsane@ecosystem.org](mailto:lmcsane@ecosystem.org)

Please bring your own lunch, a mug and an optional donation of \$15.

**Feb. 22, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

L.E.A.D. will be planting evergreens at Screen Hoag pond.

**March 1 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

L.E.A.D. will be planting native plants and removing weeds on Old Fairhaven parkway, 30th to 24th streets.

**March 5-8**

Andy Bach, Gigi Berardi, Mike Medler and Emma Spenner will present at the Association of American Geographers in New Orleans March 5-8.

**Northwest Anthropological Conference in Bellingham March 19-22.**

"Building Bridges" theme is designed to form connections with other disciplines.

For more information, check <http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~anthro/NWAC.htm>

**Association of Washington Geographers meeting at Everett Community College on Sat. April 12.**

For more information, check <http://faculty.washington.edu/krumme/AWG>

**2003 WWU Triathlon Saturday, May**